



**CALIFORNIA  
HIGH-SPEED RAIL  
AUTHORITY**

**BRIEFING: APRIL 12, 2012 BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM #3**

**TO:** Chairman Richard and Board Members

**FROM:** Gregg Albright, Acting Deputy Director of Planning

**DATE:** April 12, 2012

**RE:** Approval of Southern California Memorandum of Understanding [MOU]

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**Background:**

At its March meeting, the Authority Board approved the development of a Memorandum of Understanding with Southern California transportation agencies and Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) to create a program for early investment projects, utilizing high speed rail funding to begin development of the high-speed rail project in Southern California. The Board directed staff to continue refining the MOU language with the local agencies and work with the Federal Railroad Administration to ensure the MOU language was aligned with the goals of the HSR project, as well as with the statutory requirements of Proposition 1A. Once complete, staff was directed to return the MOU to the Board for formal approval. Finally, the Board noted that the current list of candidate projects developed by the Southern California agencies was illustrative of the projects that could be collaboratively completed, and emphasized that any Prop 1A moneys expended on these early improvement projects would need to comply with relevant statutory requirements.

**Draft MOU Status Update:**

Prior to the March Board meeting, the Draft MOU had been approved by most of the Southern Californian transportation agencies including the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro), San Bernardino Associated Governments (SANBAG), Riverside County Transportation Authority (RCTC), the Southern California Regional Rail Authority (Metrolink), and San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG). Since then, the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) has discussed the MOU item and moved it to a future meeting date.

**Memorandum of Understanding (MOU):**

In response to the Board's direction, the Memorandum of Understanding (copy attached) has been refined, coordinated with Southern California agencies, and reviewed by the Federal Railroad Administration. As a result of these discussions, staff has made the following adjustments:

- Clarifies that the \$1 billion commitment by the Authority may be funded by Prop 1A funds “and any other funding sources” to clarify that non-Prop 1A funds may be used in addition to Prop 1A bonds.
- Clarifies that the MOU reflects the direction outlined in the recently released Draft Revised 2012 Business Plan.

**Staff Recommendation:**

1. The Board adopt Resolution # HSRA 12-10 supporting the attached Southern California MOU.
2. The Board authorizes acting Chief Executive Officer or a designee to sign the final MOU, and direct staff to continue working with all relevant agencies in order to implement the agreement in a manner that reflects timelines laid out in the Draft Revised 2012 Business Plan.

**Attachments:**

- HSRA Resolution # 12-10
  - SoCal MOU with adjustments made in consultation with SoCal agencies and FRA per Board direction
    - Attachment A – Potential Early Investment Project List
    - Attachment B – Performance Criteria